

14c POSTAGE
WILL SEND
THE BANNER
HOME

McGUIRE BANNER

McGUIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL

BASKETBALL
TONIGHT
McGUIRE vs. NORFOLK
IN THE GYM

Vol. II

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1944

No. 3

Gutterman Of Lab Earns Shavetailcy

McGuire General Hospital's second direct commissioning ceremony will take place Sunday, December 17, when laboratory technician Cpl. Benjamin Gutterman, BA, MA, will be elevated to the rank of Second Lieutenant.

The 27-year-old technician is a graduate of Brooklyn College, and has taken two years additional post-graduate work in outstanding colleges of Washington, D. C., where he and his wife make their home at 412 Jefferson Street, N.W.

Gutterman was employed by the chemistry laboratories of the U S Department of Agriculture prior to his induction. He came to McGuire on June 23, 1944.

"It was about three months ago upon the recommendation of my chief, Capt. Isadore Rothstein, that I applied for the commission," Gutterman explained, when he calmed down after first receiving news about the promotion from a BANNER reporter.

He will be sworn in by CWO L. E. Roffman, after which he will proceed to Charleston, S. C., and report for duty at Stark General Hospital.

'I Don't Wanna Go Home' Cries Vet

"I just like McGuire and I don't want to go anywhere else," insisted Private First Class Ross Q. Grady, in Ward 15 until he was scheduled to transfer to a general hospital in New Orleans.

That was too much, even for the McGuire-booster who heard him say it. Grady had been overseas for months. He had fought into Germany with the 30th Infantry Division, arrived here December 3 . . . and now he didn't want to go nearer home.

"When they come looking for me with a litter tonight," said Grady with a determined drawl, "I'll be hiding in the PX."

And what medical miracle had he seen here to attach him so fervently to McGuire?

Asserted Grady, "I ain't going to leave all these pretty women!"

P.S. They found him and he shipped.

You Buy It—Red Cross Will Tie It

Patients and military personnel planning to play Santa Claus for the gang at home can beat the shortage in Richmond of colorful wrappers and trimmings.

The Red Cross staff has placed its dependable hands on enough of the precious stuff to start a gift wrapping service for all soldiers on the post.

All you do is buy the gifts. Red Cross promises to make them festive-looking.

If you have paper of your own, bring it. . . save some for the next fellow.

"Your assistance is needed," General Eisenhower wrote, "and the most important job for the people at home is to make the Sixth War Loan a success."

All Out for V-Male



He wasn't born like that . . . just patriotic from the soles of his GI boots to the tip of his United Nation's head.

Winning bets the hard way is an old hobby of Cpl. Russell F. Little, medical technician on a train crew which made a recent stopover at McGuire.

Pvt. Steve J. Chodnicki, extreme left, is the barber responsible for the hair-erasing performance. But Pfc. James C. Boyer, second from right, caused it all. He proposed the bet . . . and paid off.

Joining in the exhibition are 1st Sgt. Tom Moran and Pvt. Beveridge Chambers.

Bond Drive Hits Eleventh Hour Lag

McGuire's Sixth War Loan drive is \$14,370.50 short of its quota, with the deadline only 17 days away, bond officer Lt. R. T. Morrison announced today.

Well past the halfway mark at the beginning of December, the drive got off to a flying start the first week but bogged down before the second week and is now definitely lagging.

"Large purchases will swell the fund considerably," Lt. Morrison explained, "but it is the total volume of purchases by many individuals that will put the drive over the top."

As an added inducement to buy bonds, valuable prizes will be offered to bond purchasers at various times through the rest of December.

Guinea Pigs, Rabbits, White Mice Find Home In 'McGuire Zoo'

A six-room "miniature zoo" to house animals for laboratory use has been opened. The new building is located in the area near the surgical office.

Although far from being fully equipped, the animal house is already the home of 12 guinea pigs and 36 white mice. Additional guinea pigs and mice as well as a stock of rabbits are expected to arrive shortly, according to Captain Isadore Rothstein, Chief, Laboratory Service.

Guinea pigs will be injected with serum from patients to determine presence of tuberculosis. If infec-

3 Duty EMs On DS in Rubber Plant

To aid in alleviating the critical skilled labor shortage in the heavy tire industry, three McGuire enlisted men left on detached service this week for Springfield-Kelly Tire Company, Cumberland, Md. The three men are Pfc. Harry B. Cain, Pfc. John F. Zura and Pvt. Earl Foutch.

Although the men are scheduled to remain in their new assignments for an indefinite period, they remain assigned to 1385th SU.

All three of the men have had civilian experience in the skilled trades to which they will be assigned in Cumberland. The shipment, according to Military Personnel Office, is in line with War Department policy to place soldiers, when a need arises, at their highest level of contribution to the war effort.

New MGH Radio Series Hits Air Lanes Saturday

How Sgt. Carl Gibson, turret gunner on a Flying Fortress was shot down over Schweinfurt, Germany, and spent the next eleven months in a Nazi prison hospital—how Sgt. Andrew Nelson was able to walk again through miracles of physical reconditioning after shrapnel clipped him across both thighs and laid the bone practically bare—these and other thrilling experiences will headline the first of a series of radio shows broadcast each Saturday at 4 PM over WRVA.

Each week's program will introduce listeners to the patients whose own stories will be dramatized for broadcast by Lt. Howard B. Leeds, Public Relations Officer.

Gibson's story, considered one of the most dramatic tales of endurance to come out of this war, will include a narration of how he took part in a 600-bomber raid over Germany's most dangerous target before he was captured by the enemy. Mrs. Gibson, too, will be at the microphone to tell the story of a wife who hoped against hope for her husband's return.

Nelson, severely wounded in a fox-hole in France, will tell of a pair of helpless legs and the skill of the Army Medical Corps. Sgt. Treon of McGuire's physical reconditioning staff will explain how a new procedure for rejuvenating helpless muscles by tiring them through tedious exercises enabled Nelson to walk after being doomed to the life of an invalid.

Lena is the second in a beltline of movie stars scheduled to make its way through McGuire wards and auditorium for the entertainment—and blood pressure—of patients here. Esther Williams started the chain last week.

Tonight at seven, the Red Cross curtain opens for a variety show starring talent from Maggie Walker High School, while Friday afternoon patients match paddles in a ping-pong tournament.

Bob Hope and Virginia Mayo co-star in "The Princess and the Pirate", new movie laugh-provoker to be shown in a special free performance for patients Saturday at 7 PM.

Richmond's colored USO club on Leigh Street brings a variety show Tuesday to add to McGuire's week of fun. The show which has drawn more-than-average applause here in the past will be high-spotted by Casablanca Five, jive quintet. All patients and personnel are invited.

The week's entertainment bill will be supplemented by daily movies and floor shows in wards.



LENA HORNE

Lena Horne Due on Mission To McGuire

PROCEDURE EXPLAINED

"Almost no muscle tissue was left above the knee on both legs" Treon explains. "There were still good tendons and blood vessels, so we attempted through daily reconditioning to replenish those muscles. Under a doctor's supervision I worked out a series of exercises designed to tire or weary the remaining muscle tissue. The doctors believed if we scientifically tired or strained the remaining muscle in Andrew's legs, those muscles would tend to recuperate through growth, so that they could stand the increased activity."

Says Nelson of the success of the plan, "In nine weeks I've seen my legs go from lifeless things to strong, usable ones."

Included on the program also will be thumbnail sketches and vignettes of impressions by many combat casualty patients. Music will be provided by McGuire's own Melody Macs. Sgt. Barry Schectman will serve as narrator in the series.

Gripe Committee Reports Results

In response to a request by the enlisted men's committee, the hospital library hours have been changed to the following:

Daily, 8 PM—9 PM.
Saturday, 8 AM—5 PM.
Sunday, 1 PM—9 PM.

The committee cites this as a typical example of the corrections or adjustments they may make for good suggestions from enlisted men.

Pfc.'s Edward Sweeney, Joseph Reddish and Richard Quinn are EM representatives on the committee, while the non-coms have S-Sgt. Daniel Lane and Sgts. M. S. Snowedn, Vincent Kochunas and WAC Phyllis Willow. Any member of the committee will listen to any GI's gripe and take prompt measures for necessary corrections, according to committee members.

McGUIRE BANNER

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Selectees Get Tough New Basic; Training Influenced by Combat

By Camp Newspaper Service

Although the Army reached its designated strength a short time ago, men still are being inducted at the rate of about 950,000 a year, Selective Service officials estimate.

A large percentage—how large is an official secret—is going into the Army, where a training program of considerable proportions still is in effect, for training as replacements. Of those who go into the Army, a big majority wind up in Infantry Replacement Training Centers.

Military life is just beginning for these men, many of them youngsters of 18, although we've come a long way on the road to victory, both in Europe and the Pacific.

What kind of training are they getting? How does their "basic" differ from that endured by GIs now in overseas theaters back in '41, '42 and '43? And to what extent have the lessons learned in combat influenced training methods?

Viewing the subject from the vantage point of experience in both combat and training, Col. Dammer, Assistant G-3, Army Ground Forces, arrived at two main conclusions.

1. Basic is a lot more rugged, physically, than it was in the days before he went overseas in '42.

2. It is also more "realistic,"—better geared to the practical necessities of the job at hand.

"I get a feeling of high power

from the present program that was absent in the early days," is the way Col. Dammer puts it.

Of the physical training phase, he says, "the trend over a period of time toward conditioning through use of obstacle courses continues. Such conditioning is designed to improve a man in agility and the handling of his body rather than merely his feet and legs. At the same time, marches and hikes also are stressed."

The lessons learned in combat find their way into the training program in two ways—by being incorporated into official training doctrine through evaluation by G-3 and through personal contact between new men and veterans with service.

Some of the changes incorporated into training doctrine are still not for publication but here are a few cited by Col. Dammer:

Use of overhead artillery in small unit problems: Field artillery pieces operate as they would in battle support of the units during tactical problems. All IRTCs have a battery or more of field artillery for this purpose.

First Aid: As a result of experiences in the field, instruction in First Aid, Hygiene and Sanitation is much more thorough. Malaria prevention and control is stressed and knowledge gained in Africa, Italy and the South Pacific utilized.

Elinor Young Born In the Army; Good Place to Stay---Says She

By MISS MARY BELL

The end of the war will mean, for many, a return to civilian life. But to Elinor Young, for the past six months employed in the McGuire Supply Division, it will mean "back to the Army." She is an "Army brat" (she said so herself), and finds it fun.

Elinor has the distinction of having been born at Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, Calif. Her father, Colonel Ellsworth Young, at that time a first lieutenant, was stationed at Ft. Scott, Calif. It was his first assignment following recovery from wounds received overseas in World War I.

A sister came to Elinor at Ft. Des Moines, Iowa, and the family of four began what each member considers an exciting life.

There were three years at Ft. Armstrong in Honolulu. Elinor warms to her subject in recalling Hawaii. Vivid in her memory are the little Hawaiian classmates standing around in their bare feet, grinning and friendly. She and another Army child were the only ones who wore shoes.

Elinor spent five years at Manhattan, Kansas, the longest time in one place she has known. Her father served there as ROTC instructor at Kansas State College. Following that, "home" was successively Ft. Amador, Panama; Ft. Hancock, New Jersey, and Ft. Monroe, Va.

Ft. Monroe was her favorite post. When asked "Why?" the answer was, "Oh, there were only eight of us girls . . . and plenty of men!"

Elinor and her mother are temporarily making their home in Richmond. It is the first time the family has not been together on an Army post. Colonel Young is now on duty in South America.

Easily adjustable and continuing to delight in knowing loads of people, Elinor is finding satisfaction in doing her part at McGuire. Experience in the office of the quartermaster at Ft. Monroe preceded her present work.

Winsome and gay, she emphasizes, "I was born and bred in the Army and I love it!"



ELINOR YOUNG

Sound Off!

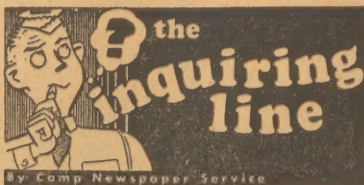
Dear Banner:

Due to the current cigarette shortage I suggest the following song to be sung to the tune of "Oh where, oh where can my little dog be.":

THE CIGARETTE SONG

Oh, where, oh where are those cigar-ates,
Oh where, oh where can they be?
You can't get them in the United States
You can't get them over the sea!

Pvt. Barney Belkin
A & D Office



Q. I returned from a 12-day furlough 36 hours late. That's admitted. However, because I was AWOL, my CO tells me I can't collect any subsistence money for any of the time I was on furlough. That doesn't seem fair. I can see where they might have some right to deduct for the two days I was AWOL, but I think I ought to collect for the other 12 days. Is there any regulation on this?

A. There is, and you're out of luck. AR 35-4520 Par (d) states that a man who overstays his furlough may be deprived of the furlough allowance, unless, of course, the CO wants to excuse the AWOL, or there are extenuating circumstances.

Q. I've been overseas for a long time, and I've saved a good part of my pay. One of the men in my company told me there is a Treasury Department regulation which prohibits anyone from bringing more than \$50 into the U. S. Is that right?

A. The Treasury Department does have such a war-time restriction on bringing in money from certain parts of Europe, but don't worry about it. It doesn't apply to GIs.

Best Fellers Give Best Sellers for Xmas, Says Library

ARE YOU GIVING BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS? The gift of a book, they say, affords a special pleasure to both giver and receiver. The following list includes a number of the "best" books of the past year and may be a guide for your Christmas shopping:

A BELL FOR ADANO by John Hersey, a story of the AMG in a small Italian town, now being made into a Broadway play starring Fredric March, will continue to be of interest for many a day.

For the "femmes" on your list you can't go wrong by giving them GREEN DOLPHIN STREET, FOREVER AMBER, CLUNY BROWN, or ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM. They're as popular with the gals as that idol of the screen, Van Johnson!

Books on the war make timely gifts. PEOPLE ON OUR SIDE by Edgar Snow, BRAVE MEN by Ernie Pyle, WHEN JOHNNY COMES MARCHING HOME by Dixon Wecter, TIME FOR DECISION by Sumner Welles—all show various phases of conditions today. And you may know someone who would enjoy most of all that national figure, SAD SACK—a whole book on his life in the Army, or Bob Hope's I NEVER LEFT HOME, a humorous account of his tour among the troops overseas.

You will find these books on sale in any good book shop.

Library Hours:

Daily 8:00 A.M.—9:00 P.M.

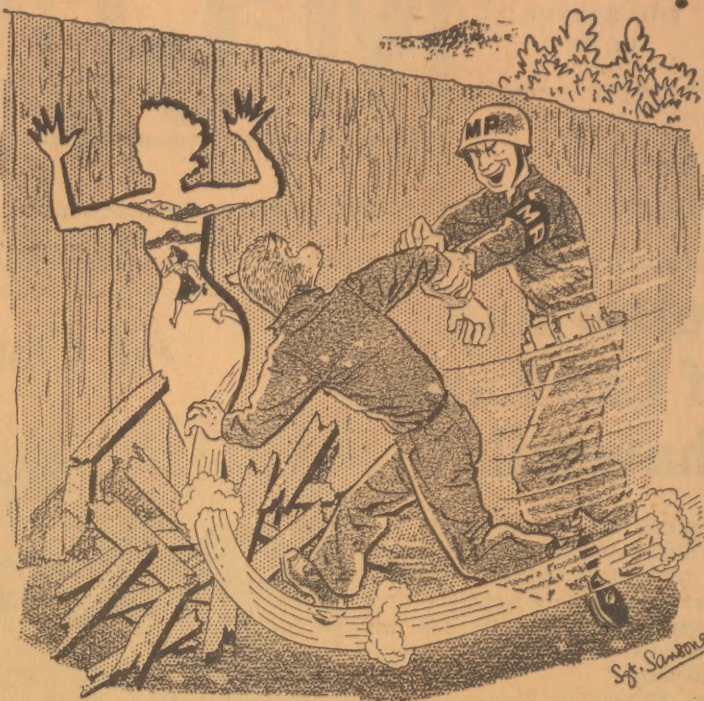
Saturday 8:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.

Sunday 1:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M.

The Wolf

by Sansone

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"Looking for someone?"

Santa Brings Christmas To McGuire PX Shelves

Santa Claus dropped into McGuire PX the other day by special invitation from PX officer, Capt. Max Dreyer, and left a sparkling array of gifts for young and old.

For the small fry there's a colorful assortment of toys, games, dolls, etc., and practical things to wear.

For "Her", there is stationery, pens, pencils, cigarettes, perfumes, jewelry, purses, hose, lingerie, etc., (including GI editions for the gals in uniform).

For "Him", the shelves display smoking articles, socks, stationery, pens, pencils, ties, jewelry, billfolds, shaving supplies, luggage, etc., (likewise, including GI editions of same).

For "Them" or the home, there are wine sets, books ends, and scores of other attractive bibelots. Greeting cards galore, magazines and other periodicals, playing cards, and many types of general necessities make the stock an enviable one.

Capt. Dreyer, who recently came from Valley Forge to take over at McGuire PX, assures that the shelves will be well-stocked at all times, and that he has arranged for daily shipments of new gifts and toys until Christmas Day. In support of his well-stocked-shelves claim, he said, "Two days ago we sold exactly 2,691 pairs of women's rayon hose in one day's time."



GI SHAVINGS

BY
Pvt. Joe Q. McGuire

Best "found-a-home-in-the-army" story heard yet belongs to Sgt. Typermass, Station Surgeon's Office.

"Type" was serving time as dispensary registrar in Camp Lee's reception center many months ago, when a young selectee appeared one day complaining of a pain under his heart. Figured to be one of many who get pains in the heart a day after induction, the recruit was given routine treatment and returned to duty. He appeared on sick call the next morning and the morning after that.

He was another run-of-the-mill "sick-call Joe" to Typermass, who dismissed him from his mind. An afternoon five days later, the draftee, walked up to Type's desk, stood at attention, handed him a letter and announced, "Sir, this is for you."

He pulled a soldierly about face and returned to his company. The letter read:

Dear Sir: Sorry to call you all this trouble but there nothing the wrong with me only got homesick and wanted to go home and told the Doctor that I had a pain but I didn't I have been her a while now I like it and I want to remain in the army. I have never had a pain in my life. I have never been sick.

Sign Pvt. _____

—Buy War Bonds—

That new facial that Pvt. Lou Bruzzoni is sporting these days is evidence enough that the battle of Richmond is getting really tough. Lou was homeward bound when three GI's nailed him along west Grace Street, put him to sleep and relieved him of 35 bucks.

Gals, '44 is slipping by fast, so if he is still backward about the whole thing try this leap year fantasy:

Slippery ice—very thin,
Pretty girl tumbled in,
Saw a boy on the bank,
Gave a shriek, then she sank.
Boy on bank heard her shout,
Jumped right in helped her out.
Now he's hers—very nice
But she had to break the ice!

From all outward appearances, McGuire's first all-GI romance might emerge from the motorpool.

Just to provide entertainment for the boys, a patient being DS'd to Rome, Georgia, ate old razor blades and light bulbs.

The Blonde Blitz that T-4 Horald Stevenson met while on furlough has kept him from making those weekly jaunts to Fredericksburg. She sure is a lucky gal, for Handsome Harold will do the last thing in the world for her—he's an undertaker in civilian life!

USO Hobby Shop Offers Woodwork, Novel Handicrafts

Richmond USO reports considerable step-up in its Hobby Shop activities. Hobby Shop program includes hand metal work Friday nights under the meticulous artist, Miss Ella Aiken Smart, and a group of co-working hostesses; leather craft and wood craft Wednesday and Sunday with Sp(T)3c Juan Garcia, Mrs. Gordon Harvie and others; soap carving constructive work, card making, sketching, led by Rosalie Woodford, Littleton Fitzgerald and some dozen more. A special feature this past month has been the portrait painting of overseas returnees by Cpl. Frank S. Rowley, Jr., of Camp Pickett.

The USO at 2nd and Grace Sts., Richmond, has extensive facilities for all types of arts and crafts, including power tools for woodwork—and perhaps soon for metal work. The arts and crafts room are open each night, Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 11:00, and on Sunday from 11:00 AM to 10:30 PM. It is also planned to make them available on Saturday afternoon. All servicemen are invited to use these facilities and to see or call Dr. Preston Warren for any special arrangements.

Christmas shopping is easy when you give War Bonds! Buy them at the Finance Office.

'Confidentially I Stink,' Cries Ft. Meade Sentry

FORT MEADE, Md. — Stark tragedy stalked the steps of Pvt. James T. Chandler, while he walked guard the other night. Full depth of the horror is apparent in the document subsequently filed:

REPORT OF SURVEY
Trousers, Wool, OD—1 pair
Disposition: Destroy.
Circumstances: "Soldier was attacked by a skunk while on guard duty . . . Due to the odor the trousers cannot be used. See Exhibit A of Affidavit, Pvt. James T. Chandler."

Chandler: "I had post No. 9 and as I was walking around the corner of one of the warehouses, I came upon the skunk and was attacked by it."

When questioned about his reactions at the time of the tragic occurrence, Private Chandler was still shaken. He had scarcely time to bring his rifle to port before the polecat blitzed. "I'm not quite sure whether I can live with myself yet," says Chandler. An efficient and benign Army has seen to it that the offensive trousers will be replaced, but the damage to Private Chandler's self-esteem is considerable. For quite a while now, he will go nowhere without his gas mask. Friends believe he'll get over it.

Jungle Butterflies Aid Recovery of Fever Victim

By PVT. LEE KING

In an American army station hospital of New Guinea, Sergeant Josef Polasek lay gasping for breath. Malaria and dengue fever, the medics had told him. So intense was the fever that the hot jungle air seemed cool in comparison. He wondered if he was dying . . . it would be so easy to let go . . . just give up and float out of life on the next wave of delirium.

But every fibre of his being rebelled at the thought of giving up. He wanted so desperately to live to fight again because he had so much to fight for. He was an American by adoption. America had adopted him just as she had so many of his countrymen who found it the only safe haven in the world when their country had been ravished and obliterated under the Nazi heel. Polasek's aged parents and his sisters had not been so fortunate. They had been obliged to remain in an occupied country.

Sgt. Polasek is not a young man. He was almost 38 when he joined the army three years ago. But it was only under the khaki anonymity of a GI that he could hope to fight without bringing reprisal upon his loved ones. Assigned to Military Intelligence, he has materially aided his adopted country.

His mind wandered in review of

the old days in his native land. He had been an international figure in the engineering field . . . then came the bitter days of harrowing flight . . . then the peace and safety in America until she too was drawn into the world conflict.

Through the border-line fantasies that presaged delirium, Polasek heard the flutter of wings at the window by his bedside. He glanced up to see a huge, brilliantly colored butterfly. From tip to tip the flaming wings spanned a full twelve inches. Polasek was sure it was just one of the things a fevered man sees, except that it was beautiful instead of like the usual frightful ones.

Centuries later, in another brief respite from chills and fever, he saw the butterfly was still there. That's when Sgt. Polasek first became a collector. During the long weeks of convalescence in New Guinea he collected many unusual specimens. When he arrived at McGuire General Hospital early in September, he brought the collection with him.

The absorbing hobby has hastened his recovery. It has helped to shorten the waiting time until he shall be able to go back to find his parents and sisters and bring them to America.



Sgt. Josef Polasek, shown holding nine-inch specimen, displays jungle butterflies collected in New Guinea last summer.

Yamamoto Phones Hawaii---'Who Foots the Bill?' Gasps His Brother

By CPL. BERNARD ASBEL

Corporal Tatsumi Yamamoto thought it was a GI gag when a Red Cross worker asked him the day he arrived if he wanted to call home. Yamamoto lives in Hilo, Hawaii.

McGuire's telephone fund, raised from contributions from well-wishing people in Richmond and all over the nation in cooperation with the Richmond News Leader, pays for calls to Hawaii, too, if a wounded

vet wants it that way. Yamamoto's call went through late in the afternoon, just a few minutes after he placed it at the Arcade telephone desk. When his brother shook off the surprise of hearing Tatsumi's voice for the first time in three years, he shouted across 4,000 miles, "Say, who's paying for this call?"

Operators at the Arcade desk have been working on the double ever since the telephone fund received its first penny. Do they love it? A frown has yet to be seen.

"We love it," says red-haired Frances Reams, "because every time the jack is plugged in, some boy here and someone he loves at home are getting the biggest thrill of their lives. Wouldn't you love it?"

Newest twist in fund contributions occurred when Capt. Resch, A & D chief, received a letter a few days ago from a school teacher in

his home town, Bloomfield, N. J. Enclosed was \$5.90 raised from fines placed on class gum-chewers. Miss Verna F. Wilson, the enterprising school-marm, had offenders place in a box on her desk the fine in cash or an IOU. Also included in the contribution was \$25 raised from direct gifts by the children.

Book Paves Road Back To the Farm

Many a city soldier, sweating out a discharge at McGuire, looks with longing eyes to the farm after he leaves this Army and no doubt many will turn to farming.

But before making up his mind on the place, the cost, the kind of farming, and all the hundred and one questions that go into farming, he should get a copy of "Shall I Be A Farmer?", published by the Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C., and give it careful study. It is a little book crammed full of useful information and written in a most interesting style. It gives a little picture of the truck farm, the poultry farm, the dairy farm, the stock farm, the cotton farm, the diversified farm, etc. It tells where to farm and how to get started. It helps after getting started,—as a farm laborer, a share-cropper, a renter. It gives advice on where to get the money, how much may be left after all the expenses have been paid, what kind of farming the disabled veteran may take up—in short, about everything he can think of before engaging in a useful but difficult undertaking.

In every agricultural county (usually at the county seat) is the county agent who can tell all about conditions in that area and a Co-operative Agricultural Service, representing both the Federal and State agencies, ready to help.

For further information, Lt. Morrison, Personal Affairs Officer, may have some helpful literature or, in any case, can get it on the double.

Lt. Morrison is located in the Administration Building, Telephone 220.

USO Hop Tonight

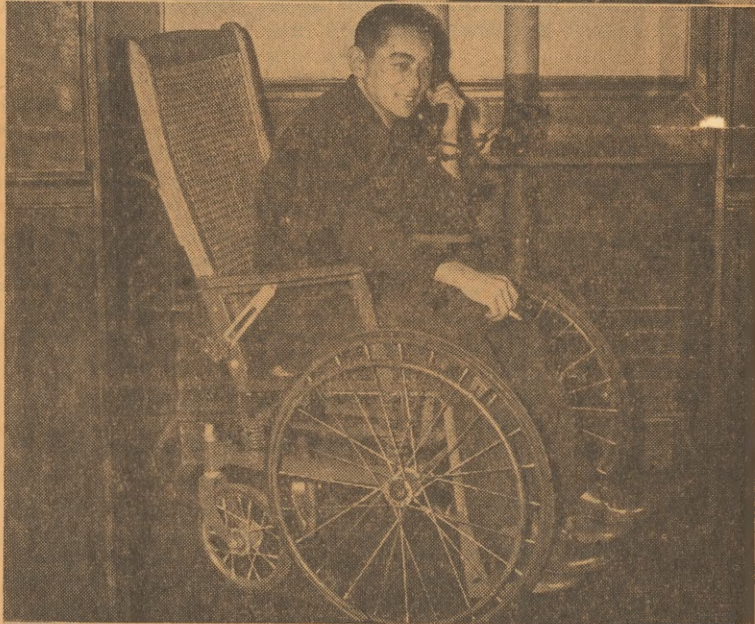
A servicemen's dance, featuring attractive junior hostesses and refreshments, will be held tonight at 8:15 PM in the USO lobby, 2nd and Grace Streets.

Camp Lee Rhythm Five will furnish the tempo.

"On behalf of your sons, brothers, husbands and friends in this great war theater I request that you do your part and see that the Sixth War Loan is vastly oversubscribed."—General Eisenhower.

Discharge Emblem For Uniform Wear

A new honorable discharge emblem for wear on the service uniform has been adopted. It is a cloth device designed the same as the discharge button, and is to be worn above the right breast pocket of all discharged personnel on all outer uniform clothing. Supplies are not yet available, it is announced by the War and Navy Departments, which are in agreement on the design.



In a matter of minutes after arriving from overseas at McGuire, returnees crowd the arcade telephone desk to say hello to Mom. Desk attendants Billie Strang and Frances Reams provide help with a smile while operators Jane Edwards, Julia Leber, Mildred Turner and Lois Bennett speed the calls through.

Cpl. Tatsumi Yamamoto, center, calls his brother in Hawaii from the specially-built booth for wheel chairs. The call is on the house—and the News Leader fund, as are

all first calls home by returning veterans.

Praise for McGuire telephone operators is incomplete without a salute to the hard-working gals who handle the hospital's inside calls with a speed and cheerfulness unequalled anywhere.

While Miss Warren Henderson, assistant chief operator, stands by to break bottlenecks, Mrs. Elizabeth Martin, Mrs. Bernice Bryant and Mrs. Lillian Gregory watch the never-tiring lights. Pfc. Bob Har-nick, rear, checks boards for repair.



By 1st SGT. BILL ALLISON

Another chapter to the sporting world's tale of fight and grit is being written by Jim Gillette, of the Cleveland Rams, the man who came back to run again . . .

The 27-year-old Virginia half-back is football's Glen Cunningham. A forgotten man in the ranks of the Professional National Football League, Gillette has averaged seven yards per rushing play—the best recorded mark in the league—although he has been handicapped by injuries and a late start. And thereby hangs a tale.

Ten years ago, Jim's younger brother accidentally shot him in the hip with a .410 gauge shotgun. . . . The doctor, at the time doubted if Gillette would ever run again.

His leg, however, knitted better than expected, he forced himself to exercise and he rose to stardom on his high school and the University of Virginia football teams.

. . . . Before joining the Rams about three months ago, after being absent from the gridiron since 1939, Gillette went through 14 months of sea duty as a navy gunnery officer. . . .

Although he had been aboard torpedoed ships twice, the six-foot Virginian returned to civilian life with a medical discharge unscathed only to be sent to a hospital with a deep leg cut suffered October 22 against the Green Bay Packers.

A FOOTBALL TEAM which was organized by some overseas war veterans and returned to this country for rest and relaxation, boasts one of the best records compiled by a West Coast service eleven this fall. The personnel of the team—Coast Guard Pilots of San Francisco, Calif.—is composed almost entirely of players who have seen overseas duty, includes six boys who survived the torpedoing of their ship in the South Pacific.

Beaten in only two games, the Pilots trounced the California Ramblers, 33 to 6; Fairful Suisun Air Base, 40 to 6; Camp Beale, 25 to 6, and Amos Alonzo Stagg's College of the Pacific, 13 to 0. They tied the Klamath Falls Marines, 6 to 6. Their two defeats were administered by the Fleet City Blue-jackets, 26 to 6, with the Pilots leading, 6 to 0, for three quarters before succumbing, and El Toro Marines, 60 to 0.

ASHLAND, VA.—A big, red rooster was chasing madly after a little black hen. The little black hen tried to escape across the road and was killed by a passing automobile. Two old maids sitting on the front porch witnessed the entire affair. "You see," one of them said, "She would rather die."



Pfc. Ralph Contrevo and Esther Williams get the facts straight before Esther pens a thank-you note to a half-track crew in Germany for saving Ralph's life. Wow! What's that in the middle? It's Sgt. Matthew DeRoberts, seizing his favorite mermaid in the middle of the arcade and . . . was she surprised when Cpl. Milgrim's camera flashed! Right, Esther sweats out the patients' chow line.

Gym General for Reduction Of Waistline Inflation

Within the past month McGuire male duty personnel have shown an average waistline increase of one and three-quarter inches, to say nothing of derriere (rear to you) embonpoint, the eagle-eyed checker-upper on number-of-persons-not-using-gym reported today. "There is no equivalent information available on the feminine personnel," Cpl. Al Bianco hastened to say as he offered without comment the facts his gym sleuth had collected on the men.

"The gym and any of its many facilities are available to any or all McGuire personnel," Cpl. Bianco emphasized, as he listed the variety of athletic and conditioning equipment on tap at the gym.

"With a seating capacity of 600 for sports followers, the spacious gym floor has accommodations for most any type of indoor sport—basketball, boxing, badminton, volleyball, wrestling, hand ball and similar group sports—and for physical training, calisthenics and similar setting-up exercise programs, as well as dances or proms.

"For individual or team workouts there are parallel bars, lifting weights, rowing machines, side horses, stall bars, dumbbells, tumbling equipment, punching bags and

Soldier's Medal For WAC Corporal

Corporal Grace Sharkey, WAC, of Philadelphia, has been recommended for the Soldier's Medal.

Cpl. Sharkey is credited with saving the lives of the crew of a Liberator bomber when it crashed on a test flight in England.

She and the crew were stunned when the plane crashed. Recovering, she kicked out the plexiglass, crawled through the opening and assisted crew members to safety. The wrecked plane exploded as she and the pilot helped the last man from the ship. The grateful crew have christened their new Liberator bomber the "Lady Grace" in her honor.

McGuire WAC detachment members from Philadelphia are particularly proud of Cpl. Sharkey, as many of them knew her.

boxing gloves. The shower and dressing facilities are unusually commodious.

"Special gym hours are reserved to reach hospital group: patients, nurses, detachment men, WAC, civilians, and officers. But arrangements for use of any gym equipment or facilities may be made at any time. Just call extension 410 and give us your request," Bianco concluded.

Mrs. Becomes Mr. But Pfc. Amoroso Keeps His Prize

For the information of Private First Class Lawrence Amoroso, Ward 2, only he-canaries sing.

Larry is the winner of the Red Cross canary-naming competition. His prize-winning monickers are "Mrs. Whistler" and "Piccolo Pete." Miss Mary Beem directed the contest.

Very clever names for a canary couple, everyone agreed, and the prize of a shiny, new PX toilet set was awarded.

Then Mr. Lewis of the Third Convoy, Virginia State Guard, the organization contributing the chirpers, dove into some research on canaries and found that Mrs. Canaries are the silent variety.

"Mrs. Whistler" was promptly masculinized down to "Whistler" and Larry still owns the PX toilet set.

Spotlight Band Visit Snowed Out; Back Soon

McGuire's Spotlight Band radio show scheduled for Tuesday night was cancelled because heavy storms north of here held orchestra leader Bob Strong weather-bound in Philadelphia, necessitating the last minute substitution of a transcribed program from New York.

This is the first time in the history of their program that this has occurred, a Spotlight representative explained. He assured McGuire that on an early date within the next two months the hospital will be saluted coast to coast by Spotlight Bands.

Esther Serves As Scribe for Half-track 5

Pfc. Ralph P. Contrevo, patient in Building 207, is a little bit excitable, emphasizes his speech with his hands. But not too excitable to remember buddies who have done something for him.

Esther Williams, movie mermaid, found that out during her tour of McGuire wards last week. Easing her 5'7" of "oomph" from bedside to bedside, depositing autographed photos behind for souvenirs, she heard someone shout, "Hey, you, commere, I want to ask you something!"

It was Contrevo. "I want you to write a letter for me," he all but demanded. "It's to five of my buddies in the old outfit. They saved my life. I want you to write in person and tell them thanks."

Esther, whipping out a notebook, looked every bit serious and earnest as Ralph, got the address and the story. An hour later Esther wrote to five members of a half-track crew somewhere in Germany. She recalled to them how, when Ralph was bleeding from rifle bullet wounds in the stomach, they swung around their half track and made back to the aid station some distance to the rear. Esther told the boys that Ralph would never have lived, according to the aid station doctor, if they had not brought him there in such a hurry.

TOUR EVOKES HOWLS

Some of the loudest wolf-howls on record in McGuire wards were heard during Esther's barn-storming tour. One GI let out a yelp and asked for an extra picture to send home.

"But I'm not here to build your wife's morale," Esther protested.

"It's not to build it up," he retorted. "It's to droop it differently."

Continuing her rounds, she asked a patient, "What can I do for you?"

To which the citizen of the world replied, "Got change for a quarter?"

Generals Face Norfolk Five Here Tonight

McGuire Generals go into the last lap of the pre-holiday basketball schedule without a win under their belts. A series of bad breaks, lack of practice, and other factors have thus far kept the boys in the cellar.

But it will be a different story from here on, they told a Banner sports reporter, and the Generals' fans can expect to see the boys out in front for the last three games before the new year.

Tonight's fracas against the Norfolk Army Air Base five is the only game of the trio to be played on home grounds. At 8 PM tonight, in the home gym, the Generals plan to garner their first scalp.

On Friday, the 15th, they invade the home territory of Hampden-Sydney College at Farmville, in the Generals' first bout with a college team; and on Tuesday the 19th, they move in on the Portsmouth Navy Yard quint at Portsmouth.

For the home tilt tonight as well as the two games away, the Generals are "primed for bear", and are in a winning state of mind—which should net some sharp shooting and high scores for them.

The Ping Pong Tourney postponed from last week will go into its finale tomorrow night in McGuire gym when the finalists from last night's eliminations paddle it out for victors' trophies.

War Dogs Nose Out Hidden Land Mines

The Netherlands (CNS)—Dogs, mongrels as well as pedigreed canines, are working with the British 2nd Army as mine detectors.

They are proving particularly successful, front-line dispatches report, in locating the new non-metallic mines the Germans have developed and are using in great numbers on the Western Front. Such mines defy detection by electrically-operated magnetic detectors.

How the dogs find the non-metallic mines, even their handlers don't know. All they say is that they must work by instinct and sense of smell.

In favorable terrain—ground that has not been plowed by shells or bombs—one dog will proceed through a minefield at a rate of 30 yards a minute, covering a lane 8 feet wide. They feel their way, cautiously but surefootedly, over ground where minefields are believed sown, always keeping their noses to the ground, sniffing rapidly, and keeping their eyes open. When they come to a suspicious spot, they squat immediately and keep their noses pointed at it. The mine usually is found exactly in front of their noses, but occasionally the dog may be wrong by one or two feet.

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



Kipling Didn't Know American Soldiers

